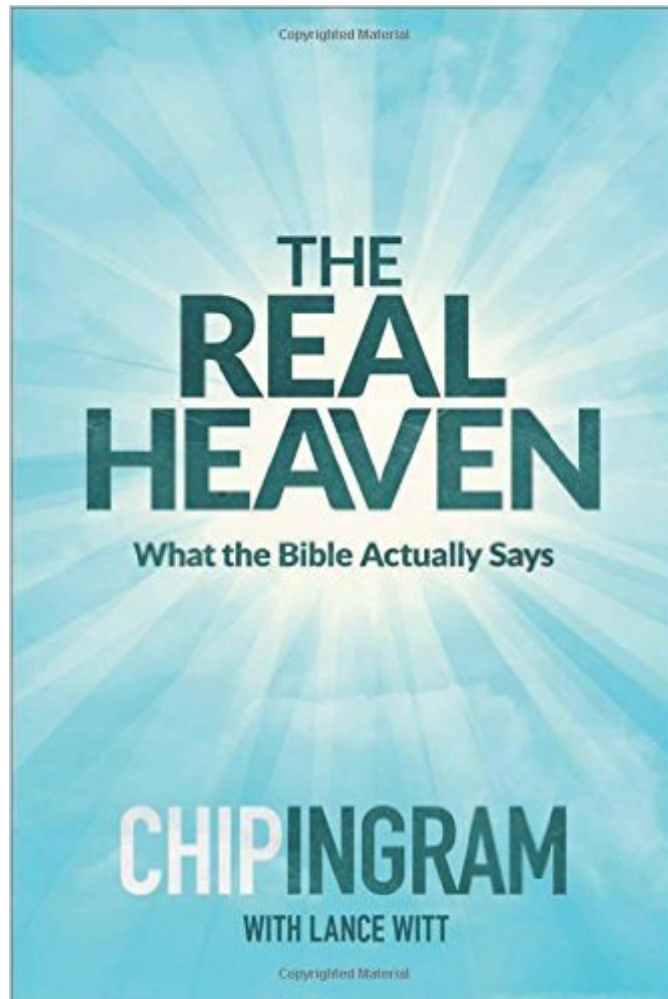


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# The Real Heaven: What The Bible Actually Says



## Synopsis

Heaven has received a lot of attention in recent years as bestselling books and movies have told the stories of people who claim to have been there. But what does the Bible actually say about heaven? What difference does it make? What happens the moment after we die? What will our relationships be like in heaven? Chip Ingram sets aside the hype and myths and digs into the Scriptures to discover what God actually wants us to know about the hereafter. Most importantly, Ingram shows why our understanding of heaven matters now, in this life. Because what we believe about heaven actually affects us today in ways we may not have imagined.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In *The Real Heaven: What the Bible Actually Says*, Chip Ingram sets out to both reframe the dominant "Hollywoodized" vision of heaven and restore the excitement of believers at the prospect of going there someday. He mostly succeeds in these endeavors. This book gives a good overview of what the Bible says about heaven, addressing the most frequently asked questions, and, indeed, building a great case for believers to be excited about going to heaven. In one poignant anecdote, Ingram asks the reader, "If you asked for a show of hands in your church, how many of you would like to go to heaven today or live ten more years and then go?"<sup>TM</sup> How would people answer? What a convicting question! How excited are we REALLY that we get to go to heaven? However, this book is not without its problematic sections. First of all, Ingram turns to the parable of the rich man and Lazarus for clues about the afterlife, but many prominent theologians, Martin Luther included, see this as a parable about rich and poor in this life and the

afterlife details are not to be taken literally. Indeed, turning literary details into literal doctrine is a dangerous practice. Also, Ingram is a premillennialistâ”which is fine, heâ”™s entitled to that interpretation of scriptureâ”but his two chapters on the end times mix afterlife doctrine and the apocalyptic language of Revelation to an unsettling degree. The fact is, many of the passages of the Bible that seem to speak of the life to come donâ”™t lend themselves well to a brief âœWhat the Bible Actually Says aboutâ” book such as this one. That said, I really appreciate Ingramâ”™s focus on the new heaven and new earth being reflective of this earth, complete with experiences, vocation, relationships, landscapes, and more.

A special thank you to Baker and NetGalley for an ARC in exchange for an honest review. Chip Ingram and Lance Witt's THE REAL HEAVEN: WHAT THE BIBLE ACTUALLY SAYS, an insightful book based on the foundational premise that the one person who has authority to speak of Heaven is the One who created it. His passion as a pastor, author, coach and teacher for more than twenty-five years, has helped believers around the world --move from spiritual spectators to healthy, authentic disciples of Jesus by living out God's truth in their lives and relationships in transforming ways. Many of us have a mix of views about Heaven--influenced by movies and other books about the afterlife. Some have even claimed to experienced death and brought back to life. With much confusion, Ingram cuts through the clutter and focuses on a simple, clear, practical and Biblical view of Godâ”™s greatest hope and promise for His children: Heaven. Secure your spot for eternity. The sixty-six books of the Bible make up one book. It is one story. Godâ”™s story. "Set your minds on things above, not on earthy things. For you died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." --Col 3:2-4 We all are going to die and even though we know Heaven is a place where believers will spend eternity, most of us do not give it much thought. As Ingram references, some have more interest in where they are going for lunch, than where we they will spend their eternity. We are all terminal. Death rate 100%. Challenging readers to go on a journey with him to discover what Heaven is really likeâ”a clear picture of our tomorrow and how it will transform the life you live today.

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